

NOTES ON *MELIORNIS NOVAEHOLLANDIAE*
NOVAEHOLLANDIAE AND *M. N. DIEMENENSIS*.

By GREGORY M. MATHEWS.

IN a collection of skins from New South Wales sent me by my friend Dr. J. Barton Cleland I notice a change in the colour of the iris from the "café-an-lait" colour of the immature male, first into greyish white, then to a white very faintly tinged with grey (in a male with small testes), and finally to enamel-white in a fully adult male with enlarged testes.

All the fully adults have quite white iris.

It is also interesting to note that a specimen of *Zosterops caerulea* in full breeding plumage was obtained in June, *i.e.* in the Australian winter.

DESCRIPTION OF THE EGGS OF

Meliornis novaehollandiae diemenensis Mathews.

Clutch three. Shape roundish, surface slightly glossy. Ground-colour buff, with a tinge of pink; at the larger end a band of reddish spots with fewer grey-brown ones. Axis 19.5, diameter 15.5 mm.

NOTES ON *ARCTIANAE* AND DESCRIPTIONS OF A FEW
NEW SPECIES.

By THE HON. WALTER ROTHSCHILD, PH.D.

1. *Automolis schistaceus* sp. nov.

♂. This is nearest to *A. ardesiaca* Rothsch. Pectus slate-grey with steel-green gloss; palpi black with steel-green gloss; head and antennae black; tegulae and shoulder-patches buffy yellow; rest of patagia and thorax slate-grey; first two segments of abdomen dark buffy yellow, rest of abdomen blackish slate, a paler grey patch on terminal and subterminal segments.—Forewing slate-grey, a buffy yellow transverse band reaches from the costa to inner margin across centre of cell expanding towards inner margin. Hindwing, basal two-fifths buffy yellow, apical three-fifths slate-grey.

Length of forewing: 20—23 mm.

Hab. San Esteban, Venezuela, June 1909 (S. M. Klages).

2 ♂♂.

2. *Automolis tanialoides* sp. nov.

♂. Very close to *taniala* Schaus and *latania* Druce. Legs orange-yellow, forecoxae orange-yellow, middle and hindcoxae earth-brown; palpi orange-yellow; head black, metallic blue spots on frons and vertex, spots at base of antennae and band across frons orange-yellow; tegulae orange with broad sooty black lateral

margins; patagia and thorax orange, latter with broad central sooty stripe; abdomen black, dorsal and subdorsal metallic blue patches on last four segments, large latero-subdorsal patches of orange on second segment and smaller ones on third; antennae black.—Forewing orange, a wide brown-black marginal band expanding broadly at termen and narrowing sharply from centre to base of inner margin. Hindwing, costal half orange, lower half brown-black.

Length of forewing: 20.5 mm.

Hab. San Esteban, Venezuela, June 1909 (S. M. Klages).

5 ♂♂.

With this new species came 25 ♂♂ of *A. latania* Druce.

3. *Automolis pseudoguapisa* sp. nov.

♀. Closely allied to *guapisa* Schaus. Pectus and coxae metallic blue; palpi brown-black; legs, tarsi orange, tibiae brown-black; head black, blue spots on frons and vertex, minute orange spots at base of antennae; antennae black; tegulae and patagia orange with broad brown-black borders; thorax brown-black; abdomen black with dorsal and lateral blue patches, underside of abdomen black with subdorsal orange patches on first three segments.—Forewing dark purple-brown, nervures pale earth-brown, an oblique orange streak from base of vein 1 to base of vein 2 and a very indistinct orange-brown patch between veins 5 and 6. Hindwing deep purple-brown, an orange rather narrow band runs from base of wing through cell two-thirds across the wing.

♂. Pectus deep blue; forelegs, tarsi and tibiae orange, coxae black-brown with orange patch on inner side at base; palpi and antennae black-brown; head black, a blue patch on frons and vertex, orange spot at base of antennae larger than in ♀, tegulae and patagia more orange, *i.e.* with narrower dark borders; abdomen with subdorsal yellow patches, which in two specimens are almost obsolete.—Forewing dark purple-brown with yellowish nervures, an orange oblique band crosses the wing from just before base of vein 1 to middle of vein 6. Hindwing, costal half dark yellow with central dark stigma, tornal half dark brown.

Length of forewing: ♀ 23.5 mm.; ♂ 17—22 mm.

Hab. San Esteban, Venezuela, June 1909 (S. M. Klages).

10 ♂♂, 2 ♀♀ (♀ type).

4. *Neritos syntomoides* sp. nov.

♂. This remarkable little insect is almost an exact mimic of the Syntomid *Lorophlebia hemileuca* Butl. Pectus, coxae and tibiae pale yellow; tarsi pale brown; palpi brown; head black; shoulder-patches orange, rest of thorax black; abdomen deep orange, last segment black; antennae brown tipped with white.—Forewing black, a large ovate orange patch below cell reaching from median nervure to inner margin, a white wedge-shaped patch in cell, and a large buff patch beyond cell reaching from vein 3 to subcostal nervure; termen narrowly white. Hindwing, basal two-thirds orange, marginal third black.

Length of forewing: 12.5 mm.

Hab. Aroewarwa Creek, Maroewym Valley, Surinam, June 1905 (S. M. Klages).

1 ♂.

In my former articles on *Arctiinae* I described two insects as *Halisidota walkeri* and *H. walkeri major*. *H. walkeri* is true *catenulata* Hübn. The origin of

this error was that the insect which has stood in most collections, my own included, as *catenulata* Hübn. is *texta* Herr. Schöff., which latter Sir George Hampson put as a synonym of *catenulata* Hübn. but which is a perfectly distinct species. The ♂ of my *walkeri major* is a good species and must stand as *Halisidota major* Rothsch., but the ♀ I associated with it is a ♀ of *annulosa* Walk.

I unfortunately identified a wrong insect as *Halisidota androlepia* Dogn., and so redescribed the true *androlepia* as *sobrenoides*. I here describe what I had under the name of *androlepia* as :

5. **Halisidota dognini** sp. nov.

♂. Legs orange-buff ringed with brown; pectus buff; palpi orange-buff, extreme tip of third segment brown; head orange-buff; antennae pale brown; thorax orange-buff with black dots on tegulae and patagia; abdomen buff washed with a darker shade.—Forewing deep orange-buff, nervures orange, the whole wing sown with dark brown dots and spots, a quadrate dark brown patch in cell and a larger irregular one on discocellulars. Hindwing semihyaline buff.

♀. Similar but larger.

Length of forewing: ♂ 25 mm.; ♀ 28 mm.

Hab. Santo Domingo, Carabaya, Peru, 6000 ft., wet season, January 1902 (G. R. Oekenden).

A small series of ♂♂ and ♀♀.

My *Diacrisia pseudomaenas* is the true *venosa* Moore; the insect called *venosa* in the *British Museum Catalogue* is *D. neurica* Hmps. nom. nov.

Automolis hyalina Rothsch. belongs to the genus *Antaxia*.

Automolis collateralis Rothsch. nec Hmps. = *Automolis maura* Schaus.

Ischnocampa pellucida Rothsch. = *Microdota lenistriata* Dogn.

Hyponerita borealis Rothsch. = *Neritos tipolis* Druce.

Mallocephala venosa Rothsch. = ♂ of *Maenas surgens* Walk.

Haemanota cubana Rothsch. = *Neritos sanguidorsia* Schaus.